



## Safety First

by Bill Klose, EFMLS Safety Chairman from EFMLS News, March, 2000

<http://www.amfed.org/news/n200006.htm#safety>, via Mar 2010 Ozark Earth Science Gem, Mineral & Fossil Club

Hammers used by rock hounds come in every size, type and construction, and include rock hammers, bricklayer's or mason's hammers, blacksmith's or sledge hammers, machinist's peen hammers, jeweler's hammers, setting hammers, soft face hammers, lead or copper faced hammers, trimmer's and welder's hammer's, as well as a variety of mallets, such as rawhide, rubber, and tinner's. I have even seen napping hammers (a 3 pound high carbon steel hammer with tapering faces used for forming stones during road construction or similar stone work) and railroad track mauls (used for driving railroad spikes). As it is hard to anticipate what a rockhounds "favorite weapon" will be, I thought I would present a list of general hammer safety practices followed by the proper use of some of the more common hammer types.

1. Always select the proper type, size, and weight of hammer for the job.
2. Always wear eye protection.
3. Always strike a hammer blow squarely, avoiding glancing blows and over and under strikes. The hammers striking face should be parallel with the surface being struck.
4. When striking a chisel, punch, or wedge, the striking face of the hammer should be 3/8" larger than the struck face of the tool. Both the striking hammers face and the struck face of the tool should be free of oil.
5. Do not strike another hammer with a hammer.
6. Do not strike a harder surface with a hard surface hammer.
7. Never use a hammer with dents, cracks, chips, mushrooming, or excessive wear. Replace the hammer-redressing is not recommended.
8. Replace worn or damaged handles. A qualified individual should replace hammer handles. Most hardware stores will replace hammer handles for a nominal fee. They can also provide a rubber sleeve for sledge hammers, which will prevent handle damage just above the head.

Bricklayer's or mason's hammers are designed for setting or splitting bricks, masonry tile, and concrete blocks. Never use them to strike metal or drive tools such as chisels. The blade of a bricklayer's hammer should be kept sharp by redressing at a 40 degree angle with a bench grinder. Keep the metal cool while grinding by quenching often in water to protect the metals tempering.

Hand drilling hammers are used with chisels, star drills, punches, and hardened nails. Never use common nail (claw) hammers for striking metal, such as chisels, as they are

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### Comments or Questions Regarding MAGS

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Or visit MAGS at  
[www.memphisgeology.org](http://www.memphisgeology.org)

## November President's Note

November, a transitional month, continues with a full slate of activities and events:

**Dues**—It is time to pay your 2011 dues. Dues are the primary source of the club's operational revenue. Please pay right away. Dues are: Family, \$25, Single, \$20 and Junior \$10.

**Election**—Officers for 2011/12 will be elected at the November membership. I look forward to voting and as you vote you are endorsing their commitment and making a commitment to help the club with its activities and events.

**Auction**—The November membership meeting will have a silent auction. Material from the Theibold collection and other sources will be auctioned. This is a good opportunity to complete your gift list.

**Rock Swap**—The last rock swap of the season will be held at the Parks on November 13 Alan cranks up the cooker to fry fish and hush puppies. Please attend. Bring food and drinks to share. Also each participant is requested to bring a donation for the Rockzone/Grab Bags. As usual swapping and selling of rocks is encouraged. Bring your tables.

#### **MAGS Lapidary Equipment Update—**

- MAGS will sell the 18 inch and 4 inch saws to the highest bidder. Auction details are published below
- MAGS has entered into a lease/purchase agreement with Robert Duncan on the Highland Park 10 inch combination unit. A component of the lease stipulates that MAGS members have access and may use the unit. If wish to schedule a time contact Robert at 876-3715

*W.C. McDaniel*

#### **For Sale by MAGS—Silent Auction**

1. Rock Saw- 18 inch diamond saw
2. Rock saw- 4 inch diamond trim saw

#### **Auction process**

1. Submit bids, in writing or email, to WC McDaniel
2. Bid deadline Friday, November 12
3. Minimum bids:
  - 18 inch saw -\$250.00
  - 4 inch -\$30.00
4. If you like to inspect the saws contact Robert Duncan at 876-3715

## Memphis Rocks

Thank you to all the MAGS volunteers who helped make the October 1 Memphis ROCKS! event a big success. Special thanks to Melba Cole, James Butchko, Debbie Schaeffer, and W. C. McDaniel for their contributions to the rock dig, and all the other volunteers who presented and helped at the event.

## MAGS field trips for 2010

Nov 6	Tennessee	Cumberland Furnace Dickson fossil coral site • Slag glass * Fossil coral
Nov 19-20	Missouri	Park Hills area • Barite, quartz. limonite
Dec 11	Tennessee	Richardson Landing, Millington, Tn Agates, lake superior agates, fossils, petrified wood, ice age fossils river artifacts

Trip notes

- \* Specific trip information will be provided via email or at membership meetings
- \* Field trips are only opened to MAGS members

## MAGS adult programs

**November 12: Dr. Julie Morrow, The Sloan Dalton Cemetery (the oldest known cemetery in the Western Hemisphere).** Julie Morrow is the Station Archaeologist at the Arkansas State University-Jonesboro station of the Arkansas Archaeological Survey. In addition to conducting research in Paleoindian and Mississippian archaeology, she teaches two classes each spring semester, investigate archeological sites in Arkansas in co-ordination with land-owners and the Quapaw Tribe of Oklahoma, gives public lectures, and provides information to agencies and individuals seeking knowledge about the pre-contact era of the Central Mississippi Valley. (A Google search found a book titled Sloan: A Paleoindian Dalton Cemetery in Arkansas. The description says that Sloan is a Native American burial site in northeast Arkansas that dates back 10,500 years.)

**December 10: Holiday party**

**January 14, 2011: Guy Weaver, Prehistory On The Buffalo River In Perry County, Tennessee.** Guy Weaver is Senior Archaeologist of Weaver & Associates, LLC.

## Bring rocks, buy rocks!

Saturday, November 13, 10:00 to 2:00 at Alan and Alishia Park's house  
831 West Powell Road in Collierville

Alan will be frying cat fish and hush puppies. Please bring aside dish or dessert.  
Questions? Lost? (901) 853-6898.



### **Safety First** *Continued from page one*

designed for driving unhardened nails and their shape, depth of face, and balance make them unsuitable for this use.

Machinist's peen hammers (ball, cross, or straight) are designed for striking chisels and punches and riveting, straightening and shaping metal.

Blacksmith's or sledge hammers are designed for striking wood, metal, concrete, or stone, depending on size, weight, and shape.

When using a hammer, grip the handle near the end where it is designed for gripping and will give you the best control and impact with the least effort. Watch your hands, shins, and feet. It may be advisable to wear gloves, long sleeve shirts, and high lacing safety shoes to protect from flying debris and sharp shards if the situation warrants it.

When storing hammers for a period of time, lightly lubricate metal parts, but wipe any oil or grease from rubber mallets or rubber handle grips to prevent damage to the rubber.

So get out there and hammer up a storm, safely.

# Pictures from the Memphis Botanic Gardens “Memphis Rocks” Event

Photos by Matthew Lybanon



Making bookmarks



Rock dig



Stamping bags



Geode olympics



Information center



Learning about rocks and minerals

## Pictures from the October MAGS Field Trip

Photos by Mike Baldwin



Nameless, Tennessee



Nameless, Tennessee



Livingston, Tennessee



Dale Hollow Lake, Tennessee



Dale Hollow Lake, Tennessee



Dale Hollow Lake, Tennessee

## DMC November Field Trip

### An Official Field Trip of Mid-Tennessee Gem & Mineral Society

Saturday, November 6, 2010 • 10:00am-4:00pm CDT

### Cumberland Furnace • Charlotte, Tennessee

**DIRECTIONS:** From Nashville, TN off of I-40 take exit 196 for US-70 S (Bellevue/Newsom Station) go 0.2 miles. Turn right at TN-1 W/US-70S W go 1.8 miles. Turn left at TN-1 W/US-70 W/Charlotte Pike go 16.1 miles. Turn right at TN-47 (White Bluff) go 9.6 miles. Turn right at TN-48 (Charlotte) go 6.8 miles. Take a slight left at Earl Leech Rd go 0.2 miles. Turn left on Cinder Road. You will see a log cabin (Starks Cabin) on the left hand side of the road. You can park in the field next to the cabin.

**ASSEMBLY TIME:** For those meeting in Nashville, we will leave at 9:00 from the old cinema in Bellevue (there is a Mapco gas station nearby). Take exit 196 off of I-40 (Bellevue / Hwy-70), the cinema is on the right. It takes about one hour to drive to Cumberland Furnace from there. For those meeting as at Cumberland Furnace, we should arrive about 10:00. Meet near the old log cabin on Cinder Road.

**COLLECTING:** We are heading to Cumberland Furnace to collect slag. The slag was a byproduct of making iron. Some of the slag is quit colorful in shades of blue and green ... some with swirls. The slag is easily cut and polished and makes nice pendants – it is too soft for rings.

Our target is a dump pile on the banks of the stream that runs through Cumberland Furnace (access by crossing a large field owned by the community). This dump pile is located about a ¼ of a mile from the parking area. Although the dump pile has the greatest potential, slag can be found anywhere along the banks (both upstream and downstream). Another way to search is by wading downstream from the furnace if the creek is low. I am not sure if conditions will permit - bring wading shoes just in case if you wish to collect in the stream.

**AGE LIMIT:** Everyone is welcome but children must be 6 years or older. They will not be allowed to roam around unattended and must obey all safety requirements and have all safety equipment. All pets must be under control at all times.

**EQUIPMENT:** You need to bring a hand tool, trowel, small shovel, etc to dig in the slag pile and gloves to protect your hands. Bring a back pack or small buckets for carrying. Boots or wading shoes are recommended as your feet may get wet otherwise.

**SEVERAL LODGING SUGGESTIONS:** Depending on which direction you are coming from, I would recommend staying in the Nashville area, Clarksville (north of the furnace) or Dickson (south of the furnace). If you are going to meet us and go as group, then Nashville is the best choice.

**CONTACTS:** For further information or alternative directions contact: John Martin, MTGMS President at [President@mtgms.org](mailto:President@mtgms.org) or call my cell phone 615-210-5385 Visit our website [www.mtgms.org](http://www.mtgms.org)

***This field trip is for MAGS/DMC members only. No visitors. Children are welcome.***

## September 2010 Board Meeting Minutes

Carol and Matthew Lybanon

The MAGS Board of Directors met September 2 at the St. Clare Room in St. Francis Hospital, 5959 Park Avenue. The meeting was called to order at 6:33 P. M. Present were: Mike Baldwin, Ron Brister, Doris Jones, Carol Lybanon, Matthew Lybanon, Neville Mayfield, W. C. McDaniel, Marc Mueller, Nannett McDougal-Dykes, Alan Schaeffer, Paul Sides, and Marilyn Hicks.

Excused: None.

Secretary: The August minutes were approved as submitted.

Treasurer: Doris Jones asked where (which account) she should deposit the money from the August Membership Meeting's brown bag auction. It was decided the money should go into the club fund. The treasurer's report was approved, subject to audit.

Membership: Neville Mayfield reported there were no new members or inquiries since his last report.

Field Trips: Marc Mueller reported on the upcoming field trips. Robert Duncan will lead the trip to Crater of Diamonds (September 25), and Marc will lead the trip to the Coleman Quartz Mine (September 26). On October 2 MAGS is invited to join the North Mississippi Gem and Mineral Society at a Memphis Stone and Gravel Co. quarry. The schedule for the rest of the year is set, and published in the newsletter.

Adult Programs: Paul Sides reported that all the slots are filled through January; the schedule is also published in the newsletter.

Junior Programs: Lou White will give the September program. Beth Day will give the October program.

Show: The first meeting of the 2011 Show Committee will be Monday, September 20, 6:30 P. M., at the Agricenter. W. C. McDaniel asked the Board for a change in the Standing Rules, to allow \$1,500 more to be retained in the Show account. Since the cost of renting the Agricenter has gone up, this is necessary. A motion to that effect was made and carried.

Library: Ron Brister had nothing new to report.

Newsletter: Mike Baldwin reported that the newsletter might be out as early as tomorrow.

Webmaster: Mike Baldwin had nothing new to report.

Historian/Rock Swap: Nannett McDougal-Dykes said Lou White will host a pot-luck rock swap on Sunday, October 3, 1:00-5:00 P. M. Alan and Alishia Parks will host their annual fish fry on November 13, 10:00 A. M.-2:00 P. M. W. C. McDaniel said he would check to see if the North Mississippi club wanted to have a small rock swap during the October 2 field trip.

Old Business:

- W. C. McDaniel reported on plans for the Memphis Botanic Garden event. Carol Lybanon said Melba Cole had donated some specimens for the rock dig event. W. C. said volunteers are still needed from 9:30 to 12:30 on Friday, October 1
- Between late October and January, W. C. McDaniel wants to plan a program to reorganize the Theobald Collection, to decide what specimens to keep and which to sell. We need to purchase some storage containers to protect the specimens we keep.
- Carol Lybanon commented on the brown bag auction. While it made for some excitement and earned the club some extra money, we need to provide more guidance on bag contents. We should try it again.

New Business:

- W. C. McDaniel reported the club received two gifts recently. The Mississippi Museum of Natural Science (George Phillips, Paleontology Curator) donated two fossil casts, and the Gene Newsom estate donated a collection of thumbnail micromounts.
- Robert Duncan proposed a lease-purchase agreement for the Highland Park lapidary combo. The Board approved the agreement. Robert will pay \$50 per month for 10 months, after which he will own the machine.
- The other equipment that was formerly in the lapidary workshop will be advertised for sale to MAGS members, with minimum bid requirements, and sold at one of our meetings.
- W. C. McDaniel will email a request for a new business card design, to include information about the club and the Show, with a 4 x 6 format, front and back.
- Ron Brister, Nannett McDougal-Dykes, and Mike Baldwin will look into beginning a new micromount group. They were considering meeting once a quarter.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 P. M.

## September 2010 Membership Meeting Minutes

Carol and Matthew Lybanon

The MAGS Membership Meeting was held at Shady Grove Presbyterian Church on September 10. The meeting was called to order at 7:33 P. M. 41 Members and 6 visitors were present. The visitors were Marilyn Hicks, Fabian Watts, Grant Shafer, Debi Cole, Lisa Edwards, and Patricia Allen.

The Juniors went to their program right away, since the presenter (Lou White) has to leave early.

Neville Mayfield welcomed visitors and one new Member. W. C. McDaniel made several announcements:

- The first Show Committee meeting for the 2010 Show will be on September 20. There are two challenges. First, we have lost several discounts at the Agricenter, so effectively our rent will go up. Second, the Show's second day will be Easter.
- The next field trip, to Arkansas sites, will be on September 25 & 26
- The Big Scoop event (a Ronald McDonald House fundraiser) will be on September 25.
- "Memphis ROCKS!" will take place October 1 at the Memphis Botanic Garden.
- On October 2 there will be a field trip to a Memphis Stone and Gravel Co. quarry in DeSoto County.
- Next rock swap to be on October 3 at Lou White's.

Marc Mueller gave more details on the upcoming field trips. The September 25-26 trip will go to the Crater of Diamonds and the Ron Coleman Mine, in Arkansas. Marc told the members what tools and equipment they should bring. There are signup sheets for this and the Memphis Stone and Gravel field trip.

W. C. McDaniel announced that MAGS had received two donations recently. One is from George Phillips at the Mississippi Museum of Natural Science, and one from the estate of Arkansas geologist Gene Newsom. The donated items are on display tonight.

Paul Sides listed the upcoming adult programs for October and November. The October 8 program, "Journey To The Top Of The World," will be presented by Dr. Gerrit Vershuur. The November 12 program, "The Sloan Dalton Cemetery," will be presented by Dr. Julie Morrow. Then Paul introduced tonight's speaker, MAGS Member Bill Gilbert. His talk was entitled "Collecting Fire Agate & Morenci Copper Mine."

Adult display presenters were Sharon Drungell, "Sapphires & Rubies;" and Nannett McDougal-Dykes, "Quartz" Coleman Mine. The Juniors were Emma Conrad, "Arrowheads and Petrified Wood;" Juliet, "Marbles and Arrowheads;" Grant Shafer, (no title given); and Michael, (no title given). The adult winner was Nannett McDougal-Dykes and the Junior winner was Emma Conrad.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 P. M.

## 2009-2010

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The main purpose of Memphis Archaeological and Geological Society is to promote and advance the knowledge of the Lapidary Sciences in the mining, identification, cutting, polishing and mounting of gems, minerals and fossils to the utmost of our geological and lapidary capabilities.

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AFMS NEWSLETTER AWARDS: New Editor  
7th—95 • Small Bulletin Honorable Mention—  
04, 05, 06 • Adult Article 10th—04; Honorable  
Mention—05 (x2), 06 (x2) • Junior Article 3rd—  
98; 8th—03 • Special Pub 4th—03

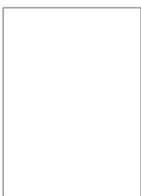
SFMS NEWSLETTER AWARDS: New Editor  
1st—86; 2nd—88, 97 • New Editor (Explorer)  
4th—03 • Certificate of Excellence—89, 90, 91,  
92, 93 • Large Bulletin 1st—87 • Small Bulletin  
1st—04, 2nd—06, 4th—03, 3rd—07 • Special  
Publication 2nd—03 • Art 77, 80, 81, 82, 86 •  
Junior Article 1st—03, 07 • Adult Article 1st—  
06, 2nd—89, 90, 04, 06; 3rd—92; 4th—85, 04,  
07; 5th—91, 03, 07; 6th—87; 8th—04, 07;  
Honorable Mention—03, 04, 07 • Adult Poetry—07

DUES: \$25 (Family); \$20 (Single); \$10 (Junior)

## “Earth Treasures” Nashville • December 11-12

MTGMS sponsors a show the second weekend of December. Our show offers a good mix of minerals, fossils, and rough as well as finished handmade jewelry (PDF show flyer attached). We are trying to get the word out to clubs within a day’s drive of Nashville. We are asking clubs to list the show in upcoming newsletters or emails (as space and club policies permit):

Nashville, TN - “Earth Treasures” Show: Tennessee State Fairgrounds; December 11-12; Sat 9am-6pm; Sun 10am-5pm; Adults \$3; Jewelry, gems, beads, minerals, fossils, collectibles, tools, equipment, silent auction, demonstrations, and door prizes. Over 30 dealers. [www.MTGMS.org](http://www.MTGMS.org)



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